Attorney Docket No.: PC791 / 31132.63

Customer No.: 46333

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Molz IV, et al.

Serial No.: 10/733,554

Filed: December 10, 2003

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REPLACING THE FUNCTION OF FACET JOINTS

SCONFIRM Confirmation No.: 7729

Replacing Art Unit: 3733

Examiner: J. Swiger III

Commissioner for Patents Mail Stop Amendment P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Sir:

This Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. Please reconsider the outstanding issues in this matter.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.